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Professor K. Hall
Department of Chemistry
University of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53201
U.S.A.

*Subject 3 Study of
In depth study of
Catalytic Systems*

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Dear Professor Hall,

Thank you very much for your kind letter of October 4. I am also certain that our discussions in Moscow were very fruitful and will be useful for further scientific cooperation.

I have received your letter with some delay, probably because it was addressed to the Institute of Physical Chemistry, also a Moscow Institute, but mine is the Institute of Chemical Physics.

I have discussed with Prof. V. B. Kazanskii the proposals given in your letter on cooperation in the field of heterogeneous acid catalysis. We certainly agree in general to these proposals. I suppose that the participation of Prof. G. K. Borekov, Prof. K. V. Topchieva, and Prof. Kh. M. Minachev will meet no objections, but I haven't discussed with them yet the problems you raise.

You are aware that my laboratory at the Institute of Chemical Physics is not concerned particularly with acid catalysis, but we are dealing with related problems. As you know, we have studied and keep studying the UV spectra of carbonium ions, exhibited upon olefin adsorption on heterogeneous catalysts. Special attention is paid to transition metal oxides supported by different matrices. I would welcome an exchange of opinions on the nature of these ions. We have also studied butene isomerization on oxidation catalysts. A part of the results obtained has been submitted for publication in Journal of Catalysis. Finally, we have investigated the surface acidity of oxidation catalysts and have found interesting correlations.

Now about exchange by students. You are quite right in saying that this must be speeded up. However, you stress again that the sum of 750 dollars (of the equivalent in Russian currency) must be paid to American students. I am informed that this exceeds the sum specified in the agreement on Soviet-American cooperation. However, this question can be reconsidered during the meeting of the Soviet-American Commission in Moscow at the end of November.

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time. I think that he will settle this question with Prof.G.K.Boreskov at a personal meeting.

I appreciate greatly your attempts to extend our program by enlisting the cooperation of American laboratories using the ultravacuum technique, as well as the laboratory headed by Prof.M.Boudart. Our young scientists concerned with catalysis would be very interested in the relevant techniques used in USA. The letter of Prof.Yu.I.Ermakov to Prof.H.Weinberg seems to be a result of misunderstanding. I actually had a talk with Prof.Weinberg, but this was about possible cooperation in a more distant future.

The first group of Soviet scientists, including Prof. V.M.Gryaznov, will probably leave for USA in November. I regret to say that I shall be unable to join them owing to extreme pressure of affairs. I hope to go to USA for a month, somewhere about January or February 1974. I shall give you more exact information additionally.

Best regards from my colleagues, and also from my wife.

With heartiest wishes

Yours sincerely



O.V.Krylov

Institute of Chemical Physics
Academy of Sciences
Vorob'evskoe shosse 2-b
117334 Moscow V-334
USSR